

Perfins Catalog US update

It is a foregone conclusion that any perfins catalog is incomplete, no matter how complete it might be. No sooner had the ink dried on the latest U.S. catalog than new information began surfacing. Here are some additions submitted by Perfins Club members.

Dave Smith (#1514) found a cover with pattern M95 (MD/Co) at INDEPEX-98. The cover provides the user identification missing from the catalog. It's Monroe Drug Company of Quincy, IL.

Richard L. Learn (#3265) has a 1910 cover that tells us that The American Tailor in Chicago (Des 27) is named Fred Kauffmann.

Quite a number of covers have surfaced with second identities for some of the patterns listed in the catalog. In most cases, these are the result of mergers, acquisitions, or company name changes, but not always.

Jacob Kisner (#2168) says W154 (Western Pacific Railroad, San Francisco) was also used by Alameda Belt Line, most likely a successor.

Richard Learn has uncovered several of these name change covers.

B55 (BBH/Co) was used by Marque Furniture Com-

pany of Chicago as well as by B.B. Hanak Company of the same city.

Fulton Bag & Cotton Mills of New York may have used E71 (EL/SAS), but the pattern was also used by Fulton Bag & Burlap Co. of St. Louis. The EL/SAS pattern doesn't seem to match either one, however.

RPS (R116.5) is a match for R. P. Smith & Sons, but the Wilber Mercantile Agency of Chicago also used the pattern.

N96 (Circle enclosing NIB) is a match for Iowa National Bank of Des Moines, but the pattern was also used by Des Moines Savings Bank.

The Southern Massachusetts Telephone Company was probably a subsidiary, or maybe a successor to New England Telephone & Telegraph (N76).

William Iselin & Company is a match for WI/&Co), pattern W112, but H.M. Kennedy Jr., & Co. of New York also used at least one of the company's perfins.

Then there's RA/176, pattern R15, the perfin of Royal Arcanum Lodge 176 of Brooklyn. The pattern also shows up on a cover from I.R. Valentine, a farm machinery dealer of Patchogue, New York. It's hardly a name change; more likely it is a case of a lodge brother using a handy stamp, especially since only one of the two stamps on this cover has the perfin.

